

National Spent Nuclear Fuel Program Direction

Providing for safe, efficient disposition of DOE spent nuclear fuel

Mark R.Arenaz Manager, NSNFP

April 22 & 23, 2003



NSNFP Accomplishments

- Presented the current approach to licensing of DOE SNF with RW to the NRC
- Issued the DOE SNF Source Term Report
- Completed analyses of a 'dropped canister with self-moderating fuel'
- Completed external criticality probability analysis model report for DOE SNF



NSNFP Accomplishments

- Developed and issued the final draft of the SNF Corporate Project Team SubProject Report – "Evaluation of Reliance on the Standardized Canister"
- Revised the Integrated Acceptance Schedule for the SNF Corporate Project Team
- Accepted the INEEL QA Program



SNF Database

- Decision made to no longer issue the updated SFD CD
- NSNFP will continue to update the database
- All requests for information from the SFD to be made in writing to Manager, NSNFP
- Change due to security concerns



NSNFP Future

- Only one thing is for certain:
 - -It's uncertain



 Compared current baseline of placing the majority of DOE SNF into sealed canisters for interim storage, transportation and disposal to a barefuel alternative



- Evaluated the two alternatives in the areas of:
 - Regulatory acceptance
 - Technical Viability
 - Cost and schedule
 - Health and safety
 - Programmatic and technical risk
 - Uncertainty



 Conclusion and Recommendation:

Maintain the Current Baseline



Rationale for Conclusion and Recommendation

- Current baseline is about \$1B less costly
 - Additional costs in bare fuel for prolonged use of storage facilities. Esp. old wet storage
 - Additional repository handling costs for bare fuel
 - Increased transportation costs for bare fuel

Rationale for Conclusion and Recommendation

- Risk of Additional Characterization is Greater for Bare Fuel
 - Costs are highly uncertain and were not included in the cost results
 - Non-destructive assay not possible for much of the DOE SNF



Rationale for Conclusion and Recommendation

- Bare fuel requires additional NEPA, Licensing and Facility Design Changes which Delay the Disposal Schedule
- Current Baseline has Lower Health and Safety Impacts



- Recognized that it may be more cost effective to handle some SNF bare
- Recommend follow up evaluations to identify this SNF
- Consider prioritizing shipments so that one or more sites can be shut down
- Need further analysis to optimize the selected option